



11 September 2024

National and International News

<p>Tartrazine</p>	<p>Context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recent research has shown that tartrazine, a common yellow food dye, can temporarily make the skin of live mice transparent. <p>About:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tartrazine, also known as FD&C Yellow 5 or E102, is a synthetic lemon yellow azo dye commonly used as a food coloring.It is widely used in various food products, pharmaceuticals, and cosmetics due to its vibrant color and stability.Appearance: Deep yellow powderSolubility: Soluble in water <p>Key findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">This breakthrough allows scientists to observe internal organs without invasive techniques.If the method proves safe for humans, it could significantly enhance medical imaging and diagnostics. <p>How It Works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Refractive Index Matching: Tartrazine adjusts the refractive indices of tissues, reducing light scattering.Light Absorption: Absorbs specific wavelengths (e.g., red light), making the skin transparent.Reversibility: The effect is temporary and can be reversed by washing off the dye.
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Pahadi Korwa Tribe

Context:

- The government has initiated a road construction project aimed at connecting **54 settlements of the Pahadi Korwa tribal community** in north Chhattisgarh.
- The construction falls under the **Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN)** scheme.

About:

- The Pahadi Korwa tribe is an indigenous group primarily found in the **hilly and forested regions of northeastern Chhattisgarh, India.**
- They are part of the larger **Korwa ethnic group**, which includes various subgroups such as Agaria, Dandh, Dil, and Pahadi Korwas.
- The Pahadi Korwa people primarily speak the **Korwa language**, which belongs to the Munda branch of the Austroasiatic language family.

Do you know?

- PM JANMAN is an ambitious government initiative launched on **November 15, 2023, on Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas**, aimed at uplifting Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) and bringing them into the mainstream.

National Test House (NTH)

Context:

- The **Quality Council of India (QCI)** has provisionally approved the **National Test House (NTH), Ghaziabad**, as a Certification Body for the type certification of drones.
- This approval is part of the **Certification Scheme for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** and is aligned with the Indian Government's initiative to build a strong and competitive drone ecosystem under the **Drone Rules 2021.**

Role of National Test House in Drone Certification:

- **NTH, Ghaziabad**, has been given the responsibility to certify drones to ensure they comply with national and international standards.
- The approval aligns with the government's goal of positioning India as a **global hub for drone technology.**
- Sectors such as **agriculture, healthcare, logistics, and infrastructure** are expected to benefit from safe and certified drone solutions.



National Test House's Legacy and Role in Industrial Growth:

- Established in **1912**, NTH operates under the **Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution**.
- It has been instrumental in providing testing, calibration, and quality assurance services across multiple sectors.
- With its new role in drone certification, NTH is further contributing to the **“Make in India”** and **“Aatmanirbhar Bharat”** initiatives by ensuring homegrown drones meet international standards.

Myristica swamps

Context:

- Researchers from **Dodamarg, near the Goa-Maharashtra border**, have discovered a sacred grove containing a **Myristica swamp forest in Kumbral**.
- This sacred grove is protected by the local community, emphasizing its cultural and ecological significance.

Myristica magnifica Species:

- Myristica magnifica, an endangered species, is native to Karnataka and Kerala.
- The Kumbral discovery marks the second instance of this species being found in Maharashtra, after an earlier discovery in Hewale-Bambarde, Sindhudurg district.
- Biodiversity and Cultural Importance
- The grove, preserved in the name of Lord Shiva, locally known as Bhalandeshwar, harbors myriad biodiversity.
- The villagers have been protecting this ecosystem for generations, contributing to its conservation.

Ecological Significance:

- The Myristica swamp forest provides essential ecosystem services:
 - Groundwater recharge and carbon sequestration
 - Natural flood barriers
 - Habitat for species like the threatened hornbills and vulnerable Asian short-clawed otter
 - Sacred Grove and Swamp Forest Details
- The sacred grove of Bhalandeshwar spans 8,200 sqm, with the swamp forest occupying 770 sqm.
- The forest contains 39 documented plant species, with 70 individuals of Myristica magnifica being dominant.



INS Malpe and INS Mulki

Context:

- On **September 9, 2024**, the Indian Navy launched two **Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) shallow water crafts, Malpe and Mulki.**
- The vessels were launched at **Cochin Shipyard Ltd. (CSL) in Kochi.**
- These vessels are part of India's effort to strengthen its coastal defense capabilities.

About:

- **Primary Role:** These vessels are designed for anti-submarine warfare operations in coastal waters.
- These vessels mark the fourth and fifth in the series of such watercrafts being built for the Indian Navy.

Aatmanirbhar Bharat Initiative:

- The project aligns with India's 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' (self-reliant India) initiative, aimed at reducing dependency on foreign defense imports.
- Over 80% of the materials and components used in constructing these ships are indigenous.
- This move highlights India's increasing self-reliance in defense manufacturing and technology development.

Note:

- The Aatmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) initiative is a comprehensive economic stimulus package launched by the Government of India in May 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Focuses on five pillars:** economy, infrastructure, system, vibrant demography, and demand.

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